

REPORT.

The special committee to whom was referred certain matters in relation to the Eastern Shore Rail Road, in pursuance of an order of the House of the 29th ult., make report of the evidence in their possession, in regard to the payment of instalments, in compliance with resolution 84 of last session. Your Committee do not conceive it as any part of their duty to enter at length into any argument on the point in question, the house only having called for the facts in the case. The Committee, notwithstanding, cannot refrain from expressing their decided opinion, that the resolution referred to has not been complied with in the spirit intended by the Legislature. In the return made by the company in certification of the proportional payment required to be first made "in cash by bona fide stockholders, owning at least eleven hundred and thirty-three shares of the capital stock of said company," the committee conceive that the contract made with Messrs. Norris and Imlay for engines and cars in advance, cannot be understood as a payment in "cash," coming within the intent of the resolution.

The testimony which induce your committee to form this conclusion is respectfully submitted without further remark.

J. S. OWENS, Chairman,
DANIEL S. BISER,
WILLIAM H. SELBY,
JOHN JAMES GRAVES.